*Bus permit*

* 280 *Q.*—SRI P. S. SANTHANAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to prevent the grant of new stage carriage permits to persons who purchased stage carriages with their permits at cheap prices prior to 1942 and subsequently sold them with their routes at higher prices?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMIAH : No, Sir.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : I am trying to catch your eye. But when I try, you turn the other side.

MR. SPEAKER : Be more alert. நான் அப்போதே சொன்னேன், சுறுசுறுப்பாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : காலையில் சுறுசுறுப்பாயிருக்கலாம்.

*Linguistic minority*

* 281 *Q.*—SRI T. T. DANIEL : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any memorandum has been submitted to the Government by the Dakshina Malayala Minority Samajam, an association of Malayalam speaking people in the Kanyakumari district;

(*b*) whether the Government brought to the notice of Shri B. Malik, Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities that the Tamils in the Kanyakumari district do not suffer at all because of the changeover from Malayalam to Tamil; and

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that the Special Officer, Shri B. Malik, has formed a wrong opinion about the position of the Tamils in the Kanyakumari district regarding the language issue?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) No, Sir.

(*c*) No, Sir.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : More than 90 per cent of the Kanyakumari people speak only Tamil and they are really glad about the change over from Malayalam to Tamil. Because a particular group which is against the merger of Kanyakumari in Madras is making a very strenuous effort to convert Kanyakumari into a bilingual area and because a very erroneous opinion has been expressed by Mr. Mullick at a Press Conference recently held at Hyderabad on this question, will the Government take proper steps to see that the Special Officer is apprised of the real state of affairs in Kanyakumari district as far as this issue is concerned?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The treatment of linguistic minorities is a matter which, as hon. Members are aware, is under the consideration of a special committee of Ministers formed by the Zonal Council. We do believe that the question of relationship between linguistic minorities and others in the States—

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Madras, Kerala, Andhra and Mysore—should be tackled and settled on a reciprocal basis. That is why the matter has been referred to a Committee of Ministers and I am sure ere long a satisfactory decision acceptable to all linguistic minorities will be taken.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : Will the Government kindly take steps to see that actual data about Kanyakumari are supplied to the Special Officer?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I really do not understand why the hon. Member should be concerned about the views of the Linguistic Commissioner. After all, he is an officer of the Government of India and there is no question of his influencing any action we take in Kanyakumari except perhaps for the fact that he is entitled to advise us if there is any injustice done to the concerned people on the basis of language. If the hon. Member has got the impression that we are likely to be misled by anybody, I may assure him that there is no likelihood of our being misled.

SRI M. WILLIAM : Have the Government in their possession sufficient data regarding the percentage of Malayalees in Kanyakumari district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not have the data here. I am sure nobody can manipulate the data now available. It is only on the basis of language that the whole area was transferred to Madras and there is no question of anybody re-agitating the question, or in any way changing the decision which has already been taken.

*Contributory Provident-Pension Fund*

* 282 *Q.*—SRI M. P. SARATHI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Government employees who have not received their account slips for Contributory Provident-Pension Fund for 1956–57;

(*b*) the reasons for the delay;

(*c*) the rate of interest allowed on the Contributary Provident-Pension Fund; and

(*d*) whether it is less than the interest paid on the National-Savings Certificates?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) The Government have no information on the point. According to programme, account slips for 1956–57 were despatched to all subscribers in August 1957 itself.

(*b*) If a few subscribers have not received the slips due to them promptly, it might be due to their transfer to some other office or due to the non-availability of their correct addresses. Duplicate Account slips are furnished to persons who represent that they did not receive the originals.

(*c*) 3·75 per cent per annum (compound interest).

(*d*) At present, only the Twelve Year National Plan Savings Certificates are issued by the Government of India. These